

Association of Bay Area Governments
Bay Area Air Quality Management District
Bay Conservation and Development Commission
Metropolitan Transportation Commission

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# **JOINT POLICY COMMITTEE**

## Minutes of the Meeting of March 16, 2007 Held at 10:00 AM in the MetroCenter Auditorium, Oakland

### Attendance:

**ABAG BAAQMD** BCDC\* MTC Jane Brunner Chris Daly Larry Goldzband Tom Bates Dave Cortese, V. Chair Jerry Hill Anne Halsted Bill Dodd Mark Ross, Chair Mark Green Jim Bourgart Jim Spering Scott Haggerty Pamela Torliatt Rose Jacobs Gibson Gayle B. Uilkema \*non-voting Gwen Regalia

1. Call to Order

Chair Ross called the meeting to order.

- 2. Consent Calendar
  - 2.1 Approval of the Joint Policy Committee Meeting Minutes of January 19, 2007

The Minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

2.2 Proposed Amendments to Smart-Growth Policies—Report Back on Economic Activity and Goods Distribution

The recommendations in the staff memo were approved.

3. San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission Participation on the Joint Policy Committee

The Committee approved the following:

- A. THAT the JPC accept BCDC's request to become a Committee member and that it do so on the basis that BCDC will eventually have representation and status equal to the other member agencies;
- B. THAT the JPC seek legislation giving it the authority to invite BCDC and other relevant agencies to join the Committee as full members as appropriate and required;

- C. THAT, pending legislation permitting BCDC to become a full voting member agency, it be invited to send non-voting members to participate in the JPC's meetings;
- D. THAT the JPC be composed of seven representatives from each member agency (twenty-eight in total) plus the Secretary of Business, Transportation and Housing as a non-voting member, and THAT the size and composition of the Committee be reviewed again in the future after experience with this expansion.

## 4. 2009 Regional Transportation Plan

Federal and State law requires that the region's twenty-five-year transportation plan be updated every four years. Ashley Nguyen, MTC project manager for the 2009 regional transportation plan (RTP), outlined the process and schedule for the current update. This cycle will be significantly different from past plan cycles:

- The process will not start with finances and projects, but will first build a long-term transportation vision with an emphasis on the region's smart-growth land-use objectives (as reflected in Projections 2007, RHNA, FOCUS and MTC's TOD policy) and on climate protection;
- The RTP team will include staff from four regional agencies, ABAG, BAAQMD, BCDC, and MTC;
- The JPC will be central to the RTP process; plan recommendations will go through the JPC for review and comment before going to the Metropolitan Transportation Commission

## 5. Elements of a Bay Area Strategy on Climate Change

The Committee received three presentations on current and potential climate initiatives from three of the regional agencies. Ken Kirkey's presentation on behalf of ABAG, Jean Roggenkamp's summary of Air District programs and proposals, and Will Travis' slide show on BCDC's climate program complemented the MTC presentation made at the January JPC by Bruce Riordan. All four presentations are available on the climate page of the JPC website:

http://www.abag.ca.gov/jointpolicy/jpc\_climate\_change.htm.

### Discussion concentrated on the following:

- The need for the four agencies to work together through an integrated program in order to have maximum impact, speak with a single powerful voice and avoid duplication;
- The need to resolve tensions between existing initiatives (e.g. transportation investments) and their potential climate-change implications;

- The need to depart from business-as-usual and challenge conventional assumptions;
- The need to play a strong policy advocacy role with other levels of government;
- The need to support innovation, best practices and highly visible examples;
- The need to get beyond talk to tangible and bold, not tepid, action;
- The need to work across sectors;
- The need to make it clear to the Air Resources Board that the region can play a very helpful role in the implementation of AB 32 and that there are considerable efficiencies to be gained by using mechanisms already in place at the regional level (Staff are to draft a letter from the JPC to ARB.);
- The need to use state bonds to support the region's efforts;
- The emerging need for consistent state land-use policy, respecting climate differences within the state and differing energy demands;
- The need to note the connections between climate change and virtually everything we do and virtually every quality to which we aspire.

### 6. Other Business

There was none.

### 7. Public Comment

All public comment was received relative to specific agenda items and is incorporated in the summary of those items.

## 8. Adjournment